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also aid in dispersal of spores. Another decided advantage which *Funaria* has over many other mosses is that in many regions it is an annual<sup>2</sup> maturing its spores not only in one season but during the early part of the season. Mature capsules were found in Chicago and Milwaukee in June and in Oregon in May.

All of these characters tend to make *Funaria* a species of wide distribution, and enable it to take entire possession of many barren areas. Its economic value lies in its pioneer character. It holds possession only until, by accumulation of waste and change in chemical content of the soil, other plants are able to exist in places previously wholly unsuited to their needs.

ELLIOTT, IOWA.

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### BUXBAUMIA INDUSIATA BRID., FROM BRANDON, VERMONT

D. LEWIS DUTTON

In the latter part of January, 1916, I found a capsule of a moss that was a *Buxbaumia* without any doubt, but did not look like anything that I had collected before. Upon looking up the genus *Buxbaumia* in "Mosses with Hand-lens and Microscope" I found that I had a rare moss, *Buxbaumia indusiata* Brid.

No amount of search then brought any more specimens to light, and not until April, 1920, did I find any more capsules. At that date I found five or six good specimens which have since been verified by Dr. Grout.

BRANDON, VERMONT

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### SOME WAR BRYOLOGY

The two following publications are so unlikely to be generally accessible that brief notice of them as illustrations of the triumph of science over warfare may not be out of place.

#### I

N. MALTA: BEITRÄGE ZUR MOOSFLORA DES GOUVERNEMENTS PLESKAU, MIT BESONDERER BERÜCKSICHTIGUNG DES KALKSTEINGEBIETES DER WELIKAJAMÜNDUNG. RIGA, 1919.

This is a booklet of 78 pages, dealing both from the systematic and oecological point of view with the bryophyte vegetation of a limited area in Russia in the province of Pskov (Pleskau, Pleskow), just east of the former Baltic Provinces. The author was forced by "circumstances of war" to spend the years 1916 and 1917 in Pskov and made use of this opportunity to study intensively the moss-vegetation especially of the dolomitic limestone area about the mouth of the Velikaya ("Great River") which empties into Lake Pskov. The im-

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<sup>2</sup> Campbell, D. H. Mosses and Ferns, p. 166.